

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 2

2 **48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SPECIAL SESSION, 2008**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 DIRECTING THE NEW MEXICO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO APPOINT A
12 LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE TO IDENTIFY ACTIONS NECESSARY TO REFORM
13 THE SYSTEM OF ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE AND HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN
14 NEW MEXICO, TO CONSULT WITH THE GOVERNOR AND TO MAKE
15 RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE REGARDING APPROPRIATE REFORM
16 MEASURES.

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18 WHEREAS, achieving meaningful health care reform is a
19 difficult process due to the complexity of the issues; and

20 WHEREAS, there are many unanswered questions regarding the
21 impact that various reform measures could have on individuals,
22 employers, insurers and others; and

23 WHEREAS, the cost of financing a reformed health care
24 system is difficult to predict, and the future impact on the
25 state general fund is unknown; and

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1 WHEREAS, numerous formal and informal commissions, task
2 forces, councils and advocacy groups have studied this issue
3 and made recommendations that have not resulted in consensus
4 regarding the optimal approach to reforming the health care
5 system in New Mexico; and

6 WHEREAS, serious problems remain affecting the well-being
7 of New Mexicans, including the continued rising cost of health
8 care services and insurance, an uninsured rate of approximately
9 twenty-one percent, statewide shortages of health professionals
10 and a medicaid budget that is growing far faster than
11 inflation; and

12 WHEREAS, the legislature of the state of New Mexico
13 desires to reach consensus with the governor to address these
14 serious problems and concerns;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
16 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be
17 directed to appoint a legislative task force to identify
18 actions necessary to reform the system of access to health care
19 and health care services in New Mexico; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall consult
21 with the governor to determine areas where consensus can be
22 reached and make recommendations to the legislature regarding
23 appropriate reform measures; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
25 transmitted to the governor and the members of the New Mexico

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1 legislative council.

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